



# KENTUCKY FISHING & BOATING GUIDE

MARCH 2009 - FEBRUARY 2010



Photo courtesy Sarah Terry

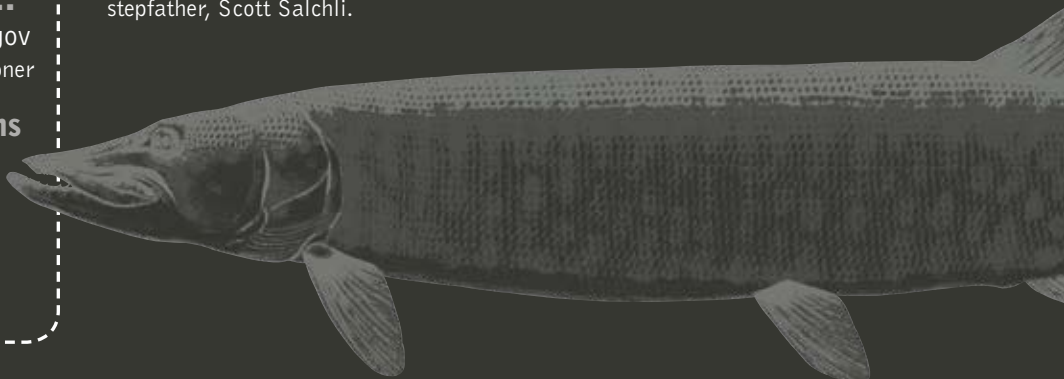
## FISH & WILDLIFE:

1-800-858-1549 • [fw.ky.gov](http://fw.ky.gov)  
Dr. Jonathan Gassett, Commissioner

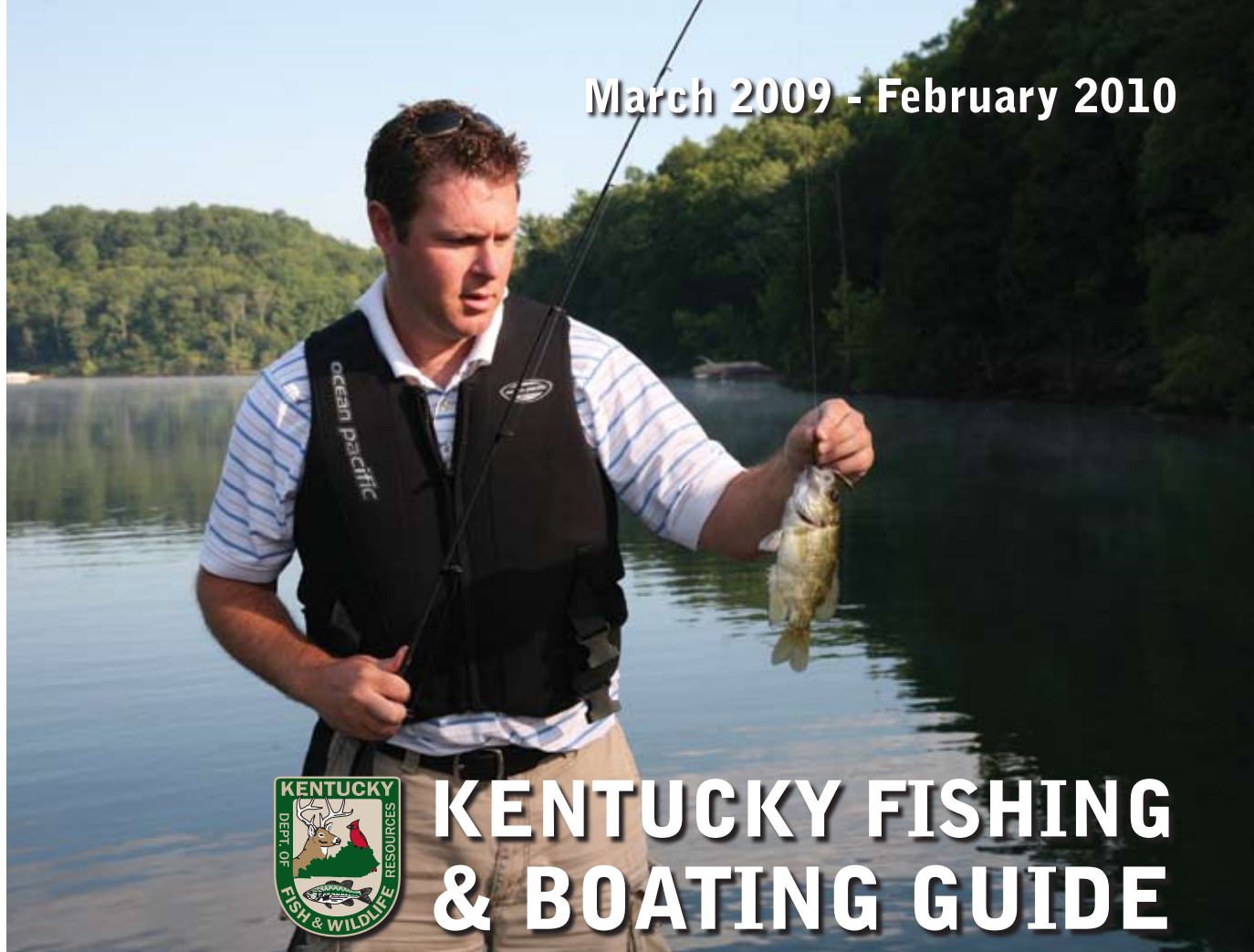
**Report Game Violations  
and Fish Kills:**  
1-800-25-ALERT



Sarah Terry, age 14, of Mt. Sterling, Kentucky, holds the state record muskellunge she caught from Cave Run Lake on Nov. 2, 2008. Helping hold the 47-pound fish is Terry's stepfather, Scott Salchli.



March 2009 - February 2010



# KENTUCKY FISHING & BOATING GUIDE

Rick Hill photo

## FISH & WILDLIFE:

1-800-858-1549 • fw.ky.gov  
Dr. Jonathan Gassett, Commissioner

**Report Game Violations:**  
1-800-25-ALERT

### ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This is a **SUMMARY** of the laws regarding fishing and boating. This guide is intended solely for informational use. It is not a reprint of any referenced statute or regulation in its entirety and should not be used as such. Questions about the information contained in this guide should be directed to the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources **BEFORE** engaging in the activities referenced. Actual wording of any Kentucky Revised Statute (KRS) or Kentucky Administrative Regulation (KAR) can be viewed at [www.lrc.state.ky.us/kar/frntpage.htm](http://www.lrc.state.ky.us/kar/frntpage.htm).



**4 FISHING REGULATIONS**

**18 GENERAL INFORMATION**

**26 TROUT WATERS**

**30 TROPHY FISH**

**36 BOATING**

**46 DEFINITIONS & INDEX**

### OTHER GUIDES AVAILABLE

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife also produces regulation guides for spring and fall hunting and trapping, waterfowl and other migratory bird hunting. Call 1-800-858-1549 weekdays, look for a copy of these regulation guides where hunting licenses are sold, or log on to [fw.ky.gov](http://fw.ky.gov).





## Commonwealth of Kentucky

Steven L. Beshear, Governor

### FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

1st District: Terry Teitloff, Smithland

2nd District: Dale Franklin, Morgantown

3rd District: James "Tony" Brown Sr.,  
Brandenburg

4th District: Dr. James R. Angel, Campbellsville

5th District: Dr. James R. Rich, Taylor Mill

6th District: Stephen Glenn, Frankfort

7th District: Doug Hensley, Hazard

8th District: Rick D. Storm, Carlisle

9th District: Taylor Orr, London

### Department of

### FISH AND WILDLIFE RESOURCES

Commissioner: Dr. Jonathan Gassett

Deputy Commissioner: Benjy Kinman

Deputy Commissioner: Hank Patton

Wildlife Director: Dr. Karen Alexy

Fisheries Director: vacant

Law Enforcement Director: Col. Robert Milligan

Information & Education Director: Tim Slone

Administrative Services Director: Darin Moore

Public Affairs & Policy Director: Lynn Garrison

Engineering Director: Charles Bush

### FISHING & BOATING GUIDE

Editor: Lee McClellan

Art/Design Director: Adrienne Yancy

Contributors: Gerry Buynak, Dave Dreves,  
Rick Echols, Larry Estes, Ryan Oster, Jeff Ross  
and Tom Timmermann



### Kentucky Fish and Wildlife is funded

through the sale of hunting and fishing licenses and boat registration fees. It receives no general fund state tax dollars. The Department manages, regulates, enforces and promotes responsible use of all fish and wildlife species, their habitats, public wildlife areas and waterways for the benefit of those resources and for public enjoyment. Kentucky Fish and Wildlife, an agency of the Tourism, Arts & Heritage Cabinet, supports an annual economic impact to Kentucky of \$4.5 billion.

## MESSAGE FROM THE COMMISSIONER

Thousands of Kentuckians who live in urban areas don't have waters close by to fish. The Fishing in Neighborhoods (FINS) program of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources aims to correct this problem by stocking urban lakes with sunfish, catfish and trout five times per year.

These stockings provide folks who live in the Louisville, northern Kentucky and the Frankfort/Lexington areas a place to cast a line with a reasonable expectation of catching a fish. People living in these



KDFWR photo

areas make up a large segment of the population of Kentucky and we want them to have a quality fishing experience without driving for hours and burning a tank of gas.

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife stocks Miles Park Lake #4, Waverly Lake and Tom Wallace Lake in Jefferson County, the Sportsman's Lake at the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Headquarters

campus in Frankfort, Middleton-Mills Park Lake in Kenton County and Stein Community Lake (formerly the Alexandria Community Park Lake) in

Campbell County with hundreds

of catfish and sunfish each April, May and June. These same lakes receive trout each April and October.

The program also incorporates other community lakes across Kentucky. Nine additional lakes in Jefferson County received stockings of either trout and catfish or just catfish. Lakes near Lexington, in Owensboro and in northern Kentucky also got similar stockings.

This important program will hopefully reverse the decline of fishing license sales that drives all of our fishing related programs. Get out this year and enjoy these lakes.

— Dr. Jonathan Gassett



### LANDOWNER PERMISSION REQUIRED FOR HUNTING AND FISHING

A person shall not enter upon the lands of another to hunt, fish or trap without the oral or written permission of the landowner, tenant or person who has authority to grant permission. Those who fail to obtain permission are subject to arrest and prosecution. Railroad tracks and rights of way are privately owned property and permission to hunt, fish or trap must be obtained prior to entry. (KRS 150:192)



✦ KENTUCKY DEPT. OF



FISH & WILDLIFE RESOURCES ✦

## WHO WE ARE

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is an agency of the Kentucky Tourism, Arts & Heritage Cabinet. Our nine-member commission is nominated by Kentucky sportsmen and sportswomen and appointed by the governor. This commission appoints the department's commissioner.

We employ about 500 people full-time, including Conservation Officers, wildlife and fisheries biologists, conservation educators, and information technology, public relations, customer service and administrative professionals.

Our Headquarters is located in Frankfort, but we work with landowners, hunters, anglers, boaters and wildlife enthusiasts statewide.

## WHAT WE DO

We conserve and enhance fish and wildlife resources and provide opportunity for hunting, fishing, trapping, boating and other wildlife-related activities.

Every year, we:

- Enforce hunting, fishing and boating laws across Kentucky for resource protection and public safety.
- Manage about 1 million acres of public land and water for the benefit of all fish and wildlife species.
- Stock more than 4 million fish in public waters.
- Build and maintain public boat ramps, shooting ranges and bank fishing access areas, acquire new public land and maintain facilities (capital construction).
- Assist about 2,000 private landowners with fish and wildlife habitat improvement.
- Inform and educate more than 400,000 kids and adults through education and outreach programs.

## HOW YOU HELP

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife receives no money from the state's General Fund.

You provide our agency's funding every time you:

- Buy a hunting or fishing license
- Buy a firearm, ammunition, or fishing or archery equipment
- Pay your boat registration fee
- Buy fuel for your boat

